



County of Riverside
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

P.O. BOX 7909 • RIVERSIDE, CA 92513-7909

STEVE VAN STOCKUM, DIRECTOR

**CITATION FOR NON COMPLIANCE – WATER SYSTEM NO. 3301535
NO. 05_63_17C_003**

Date: April 4, 2017

Re: Rancho Carrillo Mutual Water Co.
System No. 3301535

To: Rancho Carrillo Mutual Water Co.
16470 Bake Parkway I
Irvine, CA 92618

VIOLATION:

The Department of Environmental Health (Department), hereby issues a citation to Rancho Carrillo Mutual Water Co for the following violations:

1. Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 61131 Maximum contaminant Levels- Inorganic Chemicals. Public water systems shall comply with the primary MCLs. The MCL for nitrate is set at 10mg/L.
2. Title 22 of the CCR, Section 64432.1 (a) (1). Rancho Carrillo Failed to require the laboratory to immediately notify the Department of any acute nitrate MCL exceedance if the laboratory cannot make direct contact with the designated contact person within 24 hours.
3. Title 22 of the CCR, Section 64463.1 (a) (2) Violation of the MCL for nitrate, nitrite, or total nitrate and nitrite, or when the water system fails to take a confirmation sample within 24 hours of the system's receipt of the first sample showing an exceedance of the nitrate or nitrate MCL.
4. Title 22 CCR, Section 64463.2 (b)(4) (b) "As soon as possible within 24 hours after learning of any of the violations in subsection (a) or being notified by the Department that there is a potential for adverse effects on human health..."

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

On Sunday, March 19, 2019, at 6:40 PM. Mr. Dan Felix, the certified water operator for Rancho Carrillo Mutual Water Company, forwarded an email from Jeff Lee from Truesdail Laboratories. This email contained an attachment with sampling results for wells # W1, 4, 6, 9 and 10. This email was opened on Monday, March 20, 2017 by Daisy Ciudad Real EHS III. It was observed

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that well #6 was over the MCL for nitrate. It was also observed that Mr. Lee notified Mr. Felix of the exceedence on this email. D. Ciudad Real contacted Mr. Felix about the results and instructed Mr. Felix to resample well # 6 due to nitrate results at 10.2 mg/L, which was above the MCL for nitrate. In addition he was instructed to resample the two wells that were over half the MCL for nitrate: Well #1 with results of 9.35 mg/L and well #4 with results of 8.85mg/L. On March 21, 2017, Daisy Ciudad Real followed up with the lab instructing them provide nitrate sample results for the water system as soon as possible, because the reasamples were collected outside of the 24 hour window it was critical to obtain the results as soon as possible. Mr. Lee and Mrs. Brady from Truesdail Laboratories responded that the results would be provided as soon as they became available. Also reminded Mr. Lee that if contact is not made with the water system within 24 hours of the exceedence, a notification must be provided to this Department. Mr. Lee stated that the water system had not made a request for notification to this Department.

On March 22, 2017, an email about the incident was sent to the State Water resources Control board- Division of Drinking water- Paul Richter- Associate Sanitary Engineer. The confirmation results were not available yet. March 23, 2017, Mr. Richter responded and instructed D. Ciudad Real to inform the water system to notify the customers of the MCL immediately. A voice mail was left at Mr. Felix's answering machine about the public notification. No return call on the matter was received. On March 23, 2017 Mr. Felix forwarded an email from Mr. Lee dated March 22, 2017. The email had the confirmation results for well W1, #4 and #6. Mr. Lee in the email advised Mr. Felix to forward the email "right away" to Daisy since the nitrate results for well 4 and 6 were above the MCL. Mr. Felix in his email indicated that well #6 and 4 were immediately taken off line after the results were provided. The results that were provided in the lab report were: Well # 4 at 28.9 mg/L, well #6 was at 11.7 mg/L and Well #1 was at 5.40 mg/L. Mr. Felix also stated that he took three samples of the general water system which he felt were a good representation of the quality of water that was delivered to customers. He asked to postpone the notification until those results were available. This request was not approved. Mr. Felix was instructed on an email dated March 28, 2017, by D. Ciudad Real that the notification had to be done immediately. In addition, Mr. Felix was contacted via telephone and a message was left in his answering machine. No response to either method was received. D. Ciudad Real proceeded to contact Mr. Harding the next person in the contact list. He stated that he had seen the email and requested a template for the notification. An email was sent with a link to the template and a proof of notification form. A second email from Mr. Felix was opened which provided the results for the 3 samples that were taken on the distribution system. The results were 5.22 mg/L at Verdugo, 3.89 mg/L at lot #49 and 4.07 mg/L at lot #34. Mr. Felix also in this email stated that since the results of the distribution system samples were below the MCL that the public notification was not warranted. D. Ciudad Real responded to the email and instructed to provide the public notification because the system is in violation.

As per email communication with the laboratory the results for this system were not EDT because a request was not made by the operator and station numbers had not been provided. D. Ciudad Real instructed the lab to immediately upload the data. During this data verification with the lab it was discovered that the results for the nitrate sample taken on well #10 was not reported on report dated 3/17/2017. Mr. Lee notified D. Ciudad Real on an email dated 3/29/2017, that the results were not reported and that it was a lab error. D. Ciudad Real contacted Mr. Lee over the phone. Mr. Lee informed D. Ciudad Real that a manager had to look at the data before a report was generated. He gave verbal notification of the results being at 10.9 mg/L. D. Ciudad Real contacted Mr. Felix over the phone and instructed him to collect a confirmation sample on well # 10. Mr. Felix stated that he would collect the sample and would

take the well off line until the second sample results are available and a better decision is made on how to move forward. Mr. Felix also stated that a Tier 1 Public Notification was distributed on March 28, 2017. The notification was reviewed by this Department and the State Water Resources Control Board. Some modifications on the language and data had to be conducted. The revised notification was sent to Mr. Felix on March 29, 2017, for distribution. A proof of notification was also requested by D. Ciudad Real to be submitted.

DIRECTIVES:

Your public water system must be maintained so that the nitrate MCL is not violated. Consult with this Department, or other qualified water professional, to correct this violation. A treatment or blending plan proposal may be required.

All consumers served by this water system must be notified of this violation, as required in Section 64463.1 (a) 2. A Tier 1 Public Notice must be delivered to all customers serviced by the water system immediately. If the water system uses the wells that exceed the nitrate MCL, the public notification must be distributed quarterly.

Your public water system must collect a confirmation sample within 24 hours of a notification of a nitrate MCL exceedence.

Request that your laboratory within 24 hours of knowledge of an exceedence notifies this Department to Daisy Ciudad Real 951-955-8980 Dciudadr@rivco.gov and Jackie Jones at 760-863-7570 jjones@rivco.gov. In addition request that all results for sampling are EDT to the State database.

Prior to returning function to wells # 4, 6 and 10, they must be sampled for bacteria and nitrate. This department must receive two passing bacteria samples. These wells also have to be sampled for nitrate monthly. Due to results of 9.35 mg/L at well W1 on 3/1/2017, this well also must be sampled monthly.

Any wells that are over half the MCL for nitrate but do not exceed the MCL, they must be sampled quarterly.

The water system is also required to list this violation on the 2017 CCR.

FURTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Failure to comply with this notice and/or failure to comply with Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations may result in assessment of administrative penalties. This Department does not waive any further enforcement action by issuance of this citation, compliance orders and administrative hearings.

If you have any questions, please contact Daisy Ciudad Real at (951) 955-8980.



Daisy Ciudad Real, MPH, REHS

CERTIFIED MAIL: 70151520000226630019

